

Not every student is bound for college, but every student should leave high school with the skills and knowledge necessary to join today's workforce.

#### CONGRESS MUST PROTECT COMMUNITIES ACROSS NATION

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, in the dark of night in January 2020, my constituents near the Watson Grinding and Manufacturing Company were awakened by a catastrophic explosion around 4 a.m. in the morning. Unbeknownst to these working families, this particular manufacturing building had propylene, and there was a leak, and there was a seismic explosion.

Four hundred homes have been damaged to the extent that people cannot return. Tragically, two employees were killed. Due to the fact that the shift had not started, there wasn't a catastrophic killing of employees, innocent employees. A truck was blown from one part of the street to the other.

We now cannot find the owner of this particular company. Homes are still destroyed. Businesses are destroyed. There is no one to call.

I will be introducing legislation that insists that companies have the responsibility to report to local jurisdictions the dangerous flammable and toxic materials that they are holding.

We are still fighting to get relief for these innocent victims, and we are asking Mr. Watson to stand up and do what he said he would, which is to take care of all of these persons. Well, he is doing it by filing bankruptcy.

We will not rest until all of these homes and homeowners find a way for relief. I ask Members to join me in the legislation that will protect communities across the Nation.

#### RECOGNIZING ARTHUR PARKER

(Mr. TAYLOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, upon his well-deserved retirement this month, I rise today to recognize Plano police officer Art Parker on his 34 years of dedicated service to the city of Plano, Texas.

During his tenure as a school resource officer, Art made headlines for his incredible ability to memorize the names of over 20,000 students.

A true public servant and a man of many talents, Officer Parker was often seen playing extravagant harmonica solos, making balloon animals, and, most impressively, making people laugh from their cars while stuck in school traffic.

In 2015, Officer Parker was the first ever school resource officer to be

named Plano Officer of the Year. This came as no surprise to so many inspired by his power to make others feel valued.

Officer Parker has made a lasting impact on the Plano community. Although he will be missed, we know his future has wonderful things in store for him. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Officer Art Parker on his successful career and wishing him luck as he begins his next chapter.

#### SUICIDE AMONG VETERANS IS PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

(Ms. TLAIB asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, this is Damon Clayton, the son of my dear friend, Dearborn Heights City Councilwoman Lisa Hicks-Clayton. Today, I rise in honor of his precious life.

Thirteenth District Strong lost Damon to suicide last week at the young age of 28.

One friend wrote: "This man was a friend and a brother to me. We may not have shared DNA, but we shared a common desire to protect." He was a U.S. Army paratrooper in Afghanistan and a firefighter/EMT for the city of Ecorse. "When we lost Damon, we lost a very special blessing from God. This special soul spent his life protecting us."

He said: "I finish my EMT school in 3 weeks. I would like to finish in honor of him. Damon was a factor in my choice to pursue public safety. I want him to always be remembered."

For me, Damon was dearly loved by so many people, including his parents and his siblings.

Death by suicide among veterans represents a public health crisis in our country. In 2005, over 5,700 veterans died by suicide, a number that rose to over 6,100 in 2017.

In Damon's memory, I promise to do everything in my power to get our veterans the healthcare and help that they deserve.

#### HONORING DR. JIM FARHA

(Mr. ESTES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Dr. S. Jim Farha.

On January 17, 2020, Dr. Farha passed away, leaving behind family, friends, and a legacy of making Wichita and our State a better place.

After leaving his native Lebanon in search of an opportunity in America, Dr. Farha worked hard to become a cardiothoracic surgeon. In 1963, Dr. Farha and his brother George began a surgical practice in Wichita to meet a critical need of surgeons in the region. Over time, the practice would eventually become the largest of its kind in the State of Kansas.

In addition to leading the practice for nearly 40 years with his brother, Dr. Farha also worked tirelessly to improve our community. From landmarks like the Wichita Art Museum to the YMCA, the philanthropy and service of Dr. Farha and his late wife, Darla, can be seen throughout Wichita and our region.

His dedication to serving others, whether in the operating room or in the community, has left an inspiring imprint, which will be felt for generations. Dr. Farha's life is a true testament to the American Dream, and he will be missed.

#### CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SUFFRAGE

(Ms. SHERRILL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, 100 years ago, the great State of New Jersey became the 29th State to ratify the 19th Amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote.

New Jerseyans of all ages are honoring this anniversary. On Sunday, the Kinnelon Girl Scouts held a women's vote celebration, inviting residents to learn about the suffrage movement and what it means today.

In towns across my district, like Morris Township, the municipal building will be lit purple this week, a nod to the purple of the suffragette sashes that symbolized dignity and loyalty.

I thank all our residents for recognizing this milestone and what it means in 2020.

New Jersey's most influential suffragette, Alice Paul, started the National Woman's Party. She said something that still resonates today: "There's nothing complicated about ordinary equality."

In our complicated world, women have made significant strides since 1920. As we celebrate 100 years of suffrage, let us remember all the work that lies ahead.

#### HONORING CHASE TOWNSEND

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I love to listen to music, modern country like Kenny Chesney, classic country like Johnny Cash, '90s grunge like Pearl Jam, and '80s rock like The Who with Pete Townshend doing windmills.

But there is another Townsend that does more than Pete to keep music alive. This past Saturday, I dropped by to meet Chase Townsend and to thank him for creating jobs. He runs The Music Factory in Pearland, Texas.

That small business was started 50 years ago by his dad, Steve. I was overwhelmed by the guitars, ukuleles, cellos, keyboards, and drums.

I asked him: Why do you do this? What keeps you going?